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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 30, 1981 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 25 totaled an estimated 17.9 billion ton-miles, 3.9 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

The cumulative volume for the first 30 weeks of 1981 was an estimated 521.0 billion ton-miles, 0.6 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 25 totaled 430,345 cars, 2.1 percent above 1980, and 1.6 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 12.9 percent in the East, but down 0.9 percent in the South and 3.0 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1980, 15 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, coal loadings showed an increase of 16,485 cars, or 14.9 percent, metallic ores were up 8,939 cars, or 31.9 percent, and loadings of coke registered a 43.2 percent increase. Thirteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads during the week ended July 18 totaled 30,993 cars, up 7.2 percent from the corresponding week of 1980, and 55,318 trailers and/or containers, up 2.4 percent from last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 29 weeks of the year was 937,659 cars, 0.5 percent higher than last year, and 1,690,754 trailers and/or containers, down 0.4 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/25/81:

	Loadings in Week ended July 25, 1981		Change from Corresponding Week 1980		Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent
Grain	21,277	D	11,568	35.2	D 2,563	10.8
Other farm products	3,097	D	1,524	33.0	D 839	21.3
Metallic ores	36,929	I	8,939	31.9	D 3,695	9.1
Coal	127,119	I	16,485	14.9	I 8,086	6.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,466	D	1,377	9.3	I 203	1.5
Nonmetallic minerals	14,497	D	598	4.0	D 1,251	7.9
Grain mill products	13,938	D	3,155	18.5	I 355	2.6
Food and kindred products	15,251	D	1,847	10.8	I 644	4.4
Primary forest products	18,302	D	1,474	7.5	I 81	0.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,243	D	693	7.8	I 718	9.5
Pulp, paper and allied products	19,058	D	760	3.8	I 1,390	7.9
Chemicals and allied products	24,717	I	595	2.5	I 1,158	4.9
Petroleum products	5,118	D	361	6.6	I 241	4.9
Stone, clay and glass products	13,866	D	1,483	9.7	D 53	0.4
Coke	6,220	I	1,877	43.2	D 30	0.5
Metals and products	14,791	I	1,274	9.4	D 64	0.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	13,328	I	2,152	19.3	I 601	4.7
Waste and scrap materials	10,941	I	1,351	14.1	D 361	3.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,325	D	714	7.1	I 999	12.0
All other carloads	40,681	I	1,639	4.2	I 1,107	2.8
LCL traffic	181	D	13	6.7	I 1	0.6
Total Cars Loaded	430,345	I	8,745	2.1	I 6,728	1.6
Corresponding week of 1980	421,600					

	1981	1980	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (30 weeks)	12,420,955	13,027,184	D 4.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
29 Weeks cumulative	503.1 (Revised)	507.0	D 0.8
Week ended July 25	17.9	17.2	I 3.9
30 Weeks cumulative	521.0	524.2	D 0.6

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